

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1061
By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to recognize musician and producer Buddy Cannon upon being named Producer of the Year by the Academy of Country Music.

WHEREAS, Tennessee has long been known throughout the world for its rich musical heritage; talented musicians from across the Nation have traveled to Nashville to begin legendary careers that have earned Music City U.S.A. a reputation that is unsurpassed in the history of American music; and

WHEREAS, one such legendary musical talent is Buddy Cannon, who is the 2006 winner of the Academy of Country Music's Producer of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cannon first earned his musical stripes in the early 1970s as the bass player in Grand Ole Opry star Bob Luman's band; his songwriting ability turned the head of the Country Music Association's 1976 Entertainer of the Year, Mel Tillis, who promptly hired Buddy Cannon to work in his band and with his publishing company; and

WHEREAS, during their eleven-year association, Mel Tillis recorded several of Buddy Cannon's songs, including the popular "I Believe in You," which went to the top of the charts and was also cut by Englebert Humperdink; and

WHEREAS, after the acquisition of Mel Tillis' publishing interests by PolyGram, Buddy Cannon was hired by PolyGram's Mercury Records as Director of Artists and Repertoire (A & R) for the company; during his six-year stint at Mercury, Buddy Cannon was instrumental in bringing such stars as Shania Twain, Sammy Kershaw, and Bill Ray Cyrus to the label; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Cannon produced several Number One hits for Sammy Kershaw during this period, as well as others which reached the Top Five position on the charts. Mr. Cannon was eventually recruited to serve as Vice President of A & R for Polydor/Nashville, where he brought in, among other artists, The Moffats, who have since gone on to garner huge

international success; Mr. Cannon later elected to leave that position in 1995 to pursue independent production projects; and

WHEREAS, as the producer of chart-topping hits by such dynamic artists as Kenny Chesney, John Michael Montgomery, and George Jones, Buddy Cannon's talent in the studio continues to speak for itself; he is a wizard behind the console, owing to his many years of experience in all aspects of the music business, from session background vocalist and band member to master songwriter and publishing company executive; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Cannon's knack for choosing the right artists and producing their hits has helped launch the careers of such mega-stars as Shania Twain, Sammy Kershaw, and Billy Ray Cyrus, and his songwriting prowess has provided numerous hit songs for everyone from Vern Gosdin and Mel Tillis to Alabama and George Strait; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 winner of *Music Row* Magazine's Producer of the Year award, Buddy Cannon was recently named the 2006 recipient of the ACM's Producer of the Year award; in the past few years he has received, as producer, Gold Album awards for Joe Nichols and Reba McEntire; Platinum Album award for Kenny Chesney; and Double Platinum Album awards for four of Kenny Chesney's other albums; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Cannon has enjoyed a long and successful career in music, as a musician, vocalist, producer, songwriter, and businessman; he is one of the most versatile talents in the history of Nashville music; and

WHEREAS, his immeasurable talent and innovative approach have enabled him to leave an indelible mark on Nashville and secured for him his rightful place as an icon in country music; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we recognize the illustrious career and extraordinary musical talents of this remarkable man; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Buddy Cannon upon his receipt of the 2006 Producer of the Year Award from the Academy of Country Music; his legendary talent as a musician, producer, songwriter, and businessman; his unique influence upon so many great

artists of our time; and his singular contributions to country music and Nashville's music industry. We extend to him our best wishes for much continued success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.